

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 TUNIS 02108 291011Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 FEA-01 ACDA-07 AGRE-00
AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 COME-00
DLOS-09 DOTE-00 EB-08 EPA-01 ERDA-05 FMC-01
TRSE-00 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-05 NSF-01 OES-06 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 /127 W
-----291018Z 021748 /21

O R 290936Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6208
INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE
SECDEF WASHDC
CINCUSNAVEUR
COMSIXTHFLT
EUCOM
USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES ITALY

S E C R E T TUNIS 2108

CINCUSNAVEUR, EUCOM PASS POLADS

USDOCOSOUTH PASS CINCSOUTH FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR PLOS PBOR LY IT TS
SUBJECT: QADHAFI EXPANDS CONTINENTAL SHELF CLAIM

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 TUNIS 02108 291011Z

REO: TUNIS 2107

1. PRIME MINISTER NOUIRA PHONED ME LAST EVENING, REFERRED TO
OUR CONVERSATION OF YESTERDAY AFTERNOON (REFTEL), TO REPORT
THAT HE HAD JUST BEEN INFORMED BY TOTAL REPRESENTATIVE IN
TUNIS THAT QADHAFI HAS ORDERED TOTAL TO CEASE ALL OPERATIONS
IN ISIS FIELD. ISIS FIELD, PRIME MINISTER REMINDED ME,

WAS VERY PROMISING CONCESSION OPERATED BY TOTAL FOR PAST TWO YEARS AND ACCEPTED BY ALL CONCERNED AS LOCATED WELL WITHIN TUNISIAN TERRITORIAL WATERS.

2. I ASKED NOHRA IF HE KNEW WHETHER OTHER OIL COMPANIES OPERATING OTHER TUNISIAN OFFSHORE CONCESSIONS HAD RECEIVED SIMILAR LIBYAN ORDERS TO CEASE OPERATIONS, SPECULATING THAT THIS MIGHT BE BEGINNING OF SYSTEMATIC PRESSURE ON AMERICAN, ITALIAN AND OTHER FOREIGN COMPANIES OPERATING ON BOTH SIDES OF DISPUTED DEMARCATION LINE. PRIME MINISTER REPLIED THAT LATEST NEWS HAD JUST COME TO HIM THROUGH TOTAL AND AT MOMENT HE WAS UNAWARE OF MOVES AGAINST OTHER COMPANIES. HE ASKED IF THERE WAS ANYTHING U.S. COULD DO TO ASSIST GOT IN THIS INSTANCE. I SAID I WAS NOT SURE WE WOULD BE IN VERY STRONG POSITION TO HELP SINCE WE HAD NO GREAT INFLUENCE WITH QADHAFI. I WOULD ASCERTAIN WHETHER U.S. COMPANIES WERE AFFECTED AND LET

HIM HAVE DEPARTMENT'S REACTION AS SOON AS AVAILABLE. PRIME MINISTER DECLARED HIS BELIEF THAT THIS MOVE REPRESENTS A CLEAR "ESCALATION" OF SITUATION AND AN ATTEMPT TO INTIMIDATE TUNISIA.

3. SINCE THIS PHONE CONVERSATION TOOK PLACE EMBOFFS AND I HAVE EXAMINED MAPS AND RECORDS OF OFFSHORE CONCESSIONS. WE LOCATE CENTER OF ISIS FIELD AT APPROXIMATELY 34 DEGREES 36 MINUTES NORTH AND 12 DEGREES 30 MINUTES EAST. WORK IN THIS FIELD WAS REPORTED ON RECENTLY IN TUNIS 1104. AT THAT TIME OUR RECORDS INDICATED THAT AMOCO HAS ONE-THIRD
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 TUNIS 02108 291011Z

INTEREST IN TOTAL'S CONCESSION. NEITHER PRIME MINISTER NOR I WAS AWARE OF AMOCO PARTICIPATION WHEN WE TALKED. IF OUR INFORMATION IS STILL VALID -- AND WE ARE CHECKING IT OUT -- WE ARE FACED WITH U.S. INVOLVEMENT.

4. COMMENT: WE CAN ONLY AGREE WITH PRIME MINISTER THAT THIS LATEST LIBYAN MOVE REPRESENTS "ESCALATION" AND CLOSER APPROACH TO POSSIBLE FLASH POINT. IMBROGLIO HAS BEEN WIDENED TO INVOLVE FRENCH AND U.S. INTERESTS.
MULCAHY

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, BORDER INCIDENTS, MILITARY OCCUPIED AREAS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 29-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977TUNIS02108
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770107-0103
Format: TEL
From: TUNIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977039/aaaaahtg.tel
Line Count: 107
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: cbc512bd-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3198727
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: QADHAFI EXPANDS CONTINENTAL SHELF CLAIM SECRET SECRET
TAGS: PFOR, PLOS, PBOR, LY, IT, TS, (NOUIRA, HEDI)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/cbc512bd-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009